

Amendments to the Drawing:

The attached sheet of drawing includes changes to Figure 3. In particular, the force transducer 60 has been added to Figure 3. This sheet, which includes Figures 3 and 4, replaces the original sheet including Figures 3 and 4.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

Remarks/Arguments

In response to the objection to the drawings, Figure 3 has been amended to show force transducer 60 and page 13 of the specification has been amended to provide support for the same. Corrected Figure 3 is on the enclosed replacement sheet.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 7-10 and 12 under 35 USC 102 based on Adam et al is respectfully requested. Adam et al disclose an orthodontic bracket and a light emitting element which is detachable from the base of the bracket as noted on page 3 of the Office Action. In applicant's invention, on the other hand, the integral light emitting element is not detachable but instead built-in the body of the bracket so as to be fixed therein. Independent claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 10 and 12 have been amended to point out this important distinction over Adam et al. Support for this amendment is found, for example, on page 6, 8 for the term "built-in" and Figure 1 which shows light module 13 fixed in the body of the bracket below bottom 15 of arch wire slot 11 and Figure 5 which shows light module 50 fixed beneath a horizontal ledge in the body of the bracket.

In view of the foregoing, claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 7-10 and 12 as amended are believed to patentably distinguish over Adam et al within the meaning of 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103.

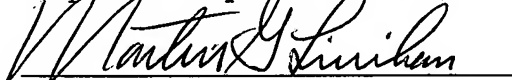
The rejection of claim 6 under 35 USC 103 based on Adam et al in view of Taub et al is respectfully traversed. Dependent claim 6 includes all the limitations of amended claim 3 which, for the reasons set forth above is believed to patentably distinguish over Adam et al. Taub et al is not considered to

disclose anything having a bearing on the reasons why amended claim 3 is believed to patentably distinguish over Adam et al. Accordingly, claim 6 is believed to patentably distinguish over Adam et al and Taub et al within the meaning of 35 USC 103.

The rejection of claims 11 and 13 under 35 USC 103 based on Adam et al in view of Fischer et al is respectfully traversed. Dependent claim 11 includes all the limitations of amended claim 10, dependent claim 13 includes all the limitations of amended claim 12, and amended claims 10 and 12 are believed to patentably distinguish over Adam et al for the reasons set forth above. Fischer et al is not considered to disclose anything having a bearing on the reasons why amended claims 10 and 12 are believed to patentably distinguish over Adam et al. Accordingly, claims 11 and 13 are believed to patentably distinguish over Adam et al and Fischer et al within the meaning of 35 USC 103.

Favorable action on this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin G. Linihan

Reg. No. 24,926

Hodgson Russ LLP
One M&T Plaza, Suite 2000
Buffalo, New York 14203-2391
Tel: (716) 848-1367
Date: March 29, 2006